

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

May 9, 2016

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Important Dates:

May 9 - MAP testing

May 10 - MAP testing

May 10 - RBT Parent Workshop (6:00-8:00 pm Holmes Media Center)

May 12 - Illinois Science Assessment (tentative)

May 13 - Transition Picnic (Brooks feeder schools)

May 23 - 5M presents *Hamlet*

May 24 - 5L presents *Twelfth Night*

May 26 - 5C presents *Macbeth*

May 27 - 5F presents *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

May 30 - Memorial Day - no school

June 3 - Book Swap

June 6 - Aquatic field trip

June 7 - Fifth Grade Completion Ceremony

June 8 - Olympic Day/Last day of school

News:

Transition Picnic

Fifth grade students from the Books feeder schools (Holmes, Hatch, Whittier and Lincoln) will be coming together on **Friday, May 13th** for a picnic! Students should bring a completely disposable lunch to the picnic. Volunteers are needed to run some of the activities at this event. Please use our [Sign Up Genius](#) to sign up for a time to help out!

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

Click here for our 2nd trimester newsletter- [SPECIALS DELIVERY](#)

Art

Under, over, under, over...

We are continuing our weavings this week. Bring any interesting yarns, ribbons, beads, etc. in from home to jazz up your weaving. Check this fiber artist's blog out for inspiration: [Natalie Miller](#)

~Ms. Jones (kjones@op97.org)

Music

We will be continuing the song "Street Song" which we started playing on the Orff (xylophone instruments) last trimester. You should have received a email and letter with the 3rd trimester assessments this week. If you did not receive this email please contact me at akaria@op97.org.

Share Day will be this week on Thursday and Friday- April 28th and April 29th.

Students (if they choose) can bring in something to share/perform. Examples are:

-Singing a song for the class

-Playing an instrument from home for the class

-Playing a piece on the classroom piano (students can bring in music if needed)

-Dancing for the class (students can bring in a CD or send me a link if needed-**a guardian/parent**

needs to write a note or email saying the song is appropriate

-Playing (on a CD or by giving a link) a piece of music for the class-**a guardian/parent needs to write a note/ send an email saying the song is appropriate**

Participation is completely voluntary. Students can drop off instruments/materials in the **auditorium** on the morning of their share if needed. Share day is not only an opportunity for students to share their talents, but also for us as class to work on several listening goals as well as practice proper audience behavior.

Chorus

Congratulations a wonderful Festival and Wolves Game performance! Click the link below if you are interested in listening to the recordings of the performance.

[Festival Recordings Link](#)

Spanish

Many 5th graders have decided to take the 100 point challenge. They are reading novels in Spanish and summarizing them. They are amazed at how much they can read. Some students are even starting a second book!

Library

We are continuing the research project we started several weeks ago. Students have finished taking notes, and are now writing a narrative from the point of view of a student in the country they chose. Next week we will start making a movie that highlights a "day in the life..." in that country. We will be using the CultureGrams database through the OPPL [Homework Help](#) page. While the majority of the project will be done in the library, students may wish to access the databases at home or interview a parent, family member, or friend about the country they are researching. To access the database, students will need an OPPL card and PIN. Don't forget to email me with any questions!

mmaneck@op97.org

Physical Education

April 15th is our Annual Student vs, Staff Basketball Game. April also brings about our Dance Unit.

The kids will be moving to different tunes while they boogie down to our p.e. School district Xbox 360 system. The dance unit will go on for the entire month of April.

Reading/Literature

This week, we will be continuing with our third trimester ELA Unit, titled "Change and Identity."

Throughout this unit, students will be focusing on the following question, especially in relation to their transition to middle school: *What factors shape who you are as an individual and your role within society?* We will wrap up our focus on identifying the relationship between events within informational texts, and we will move into identifying main ideas and details.

Please make sure there is a parent or guardian checking, and initialing, students' reading logs each night!

Writing

Our writing time will be spent continuing to identify evidence and reasons to support persuasive claims. Students will be choosing a topic for their persuasive essay.

Math

This week, in addition to taking the math MAP test, students will continue to work on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals in the context of word problems. We will also continue to practice rounding. For the next several weeks, students will be working on the Million Dollar Project. For this project, students must develop a plan explaining how they would spend exactly one million dollars. The money must be spent in certain categories, and students must use a spreadsheet to keep track of expenditures. The project, consisting of the spreadsheet and a presentation, is due May 31.

Science

In science this week, we will be continuing our life sciences unit about biomes and ecosystems. Due to MAP testing and the standardized science test required for fifth graders, it will be a shortened week for science. Please look at the above testing schedule for the tentative science test.

Social Studies

This week students will continue to learn about the events that led to the American Revolution. They will be examining the Boston Massacre by analyzing four different paintings of the event. As well as two journal entries. Students will consider whose historical account they believe to be true, the colonists or the British soldiers.

Word Study

This week, we will review Unit 4 of our vocabulary curriculum. Students will take an assessment on this unit on Thursday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

Ms. Cofsky
jcofsky@op97.org

Mr. Finkbeiner
afinkbeiner@op97.org

Mrs. Lee
mlee2@op97.org

Ms. Manuel
mmanuel@op97.org